

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Claims 1-15 cancelled

16. (Previously presented). A microparticle for controlled active-substance release comprising at least one active substance and at least one thermoplastic cycloolefin copolymer.
17. (Previously presented) The microparticle as claimed in claim 16, wherein the cycloolefin polymer is a norbornene-ethylene copolymer and/or tetracyclododecene-ethylene copolymer.
18. (Previously presented) The microparticle as claimed in claim 16, wherein the active substance has been embedded in a matrix.
19. (Previously presented) The microparticle as claimed in claim 16, wherein the microparticle has an average diameter of from 1 to 1000  $\mu\text{m}$ .
20. (Previously presented) The microparticle as claimed in claim 16, which further comprises at least one formulation auxiliary or other auxiliary.
21. (Previously presented) The microparticle as claimed in claim 20, wherein the formulating auxiliary used comprises diatomaceous earth.
22. (Previously presented) The microparticle as claimed in claim 16, which additionally comprises one or more active substances.
23. (Previously presented) The microparticle as claimed in claim 16, wherein the cycloolefin copolymer has a weight-average molar mass from 1 to 10,000 kg/mol.

24. (Previously presented) The microparticle as claimed in claim 16, wherein the cycloolefin copolymer has a viscosity number from 5 to 1000 ml/g.
25. (Previously presented) The microparticle as claimed in claim 16, wherein the cycloolefin copolymer has a glass transition temperature from -20 to 220°C.
26. (Previously presented) The microparticle as claimed in claim 18, wherein the microparticle has an average diameter of from 100 to 600  $\mu\text{m}$ .
27. (Previously presented) The microparticle as claimed in claim 24, which additionally comprises one or more agrochemical or pharmaceutical substances.
28. (Previously presented) The microparticle as claimed in claim 26, wherein the cycloolefin copolymer has a weight-average molar mass from 1 to 1,200 kg/mol.
29. (Previously presented) The microparticle as claimed in claim 28, wherein the cycloolefin copolymer has a viscosity number from 5 to 300 ml/g.
30. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical formulation which comprises the microparticle as claimed in claim 16.
31. (Previously presented) An agrochemical formulation which comprises the microparticle as claimed in claim 16.
32. (Previously presented) A method of control releasing an active substance from the microparticle as claimed in claim 16, which comprises releasing the active substance in a dose advantageous for the biological organism, after a particular

time and/or period, allowing for some random variation depending on the circumstances.

33. (Previously presented) A method of control releasing of agrochemicals from the microparticle as claimed in claim 16, which comprises releasing the active substance in a dose advantageous for the biological organism, after a particular time and/or period, allowing for some random variation depending on the circumstances.

34. (Previously presented) A process to produce a microparticle which comprises kneading at least one active substance and at least one cycloolefin copolymer to form a kneaded product and grinding said kneaded product to form the microparticle.

35. (Previously presented) A process to produce a microparticle which comprises extruding at least one active substance and at least one cycloolefin copolymer to form a extruded product and grinding said extruded product to form the microparticle.

36. (New) A microparticle for controlled active-substance release comprising at least one active substance and at least one thermoplastic cycloolefin copolymer wherein the cycloolefin polymer is a norbornene-ethylene copolymer and/or tetracyclododecene-ethylene copolymer and wherein the active substance has been embedded in a matrix.

37. (New) The microparticle as claimed in claim 16, wherein said at least one active substance is an agrochemical.

38. (New) The microparticle as claimed in claim 16, wherein said at least one active substance is a pharmaceutical active substance.